

our economy is based on consumer confidence and spending.

The same Congress that took us to the edge of a government shutdown and defaulting on our debt is again choosing brinksmanship over leadership, regardless of the impact on our economy and the middle class.

I urge the House to reject this bill and pass a clean extension of the payroll tax cut that we know will pass the Senate and become law immediately.

STAND WITH ISRAEL

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the U.N. agency UNESCO sent a message to Israel loud and clear that the U.N. accepts the creation of a Palestinian state whether Israel likes it or not. UNESCO intervened in the peace process and formally recognized the Palestinian state by raising the flag in front of the whole world. No surprise there, just another day in the U.N.'s position of bigotry against all things Israel. Yet another reason to cut U.N. funding.

Israel is America's loyal ally and the lone free and democratic country in the Middle East. Its people are constantly under attack from the jihadists who wish to remove them from the Earth all in the name of religion. The same radicals who wish to kill innocent Israelis are also sworn enemies of America. Intimidation, terror, and murder are not acceptable and must be rejected by the entire international community, especially the U.N. The United States must make it clear that we stand with Israel in their fight against hate and extremism, whether the U.N. likes it or not.

And that's just the way it is.

HELPING SMALL BUSINESSES

(Ms. HOCHUL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, I held a forum for small businesses and teamed them up with experts from the U.S. Government on how to discuss strategies in getting them into the global marketplace. It's also a reminder to me of the vast, untapped potential that lies before us as we address the critical needs for more jobs in this country.

With nearly 96 percent of the world's consumers living outside the U.S. and two-thirds of the world's purchasing power in foreign countries, we must help our small businesses learn how to export their products and services to other nations.

Small businesses I met on Saturday, like the Kean Wind Turbines and Maram's Dress Shop in Williamsville, are looking for a shot at this marketplace; but they need our help. After all, small businesses that export their goods and services are one-third less

likely to fail than companies that do not export. Therefore, I'm urging every Member of Congress to work with their local businesses to help expose them to the amazing opportunities that await them if they are willing to leap into the global marketplace. I put our products and our businesses up against any global competitor anytime, anywhere.

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HONORING CALHOUN YELLOW JACKETS

(Mr. GINGREY of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the undefeated Calhoun High School football team, the Yellow Jackets, who in my district won their first-ever Georgia High School Association Class AA State championship with a 27-24 win against the Buford High School Wolves last Friday, and give a special shout-out to Superintendent Dr. Michele Taylor and Principal Greg Green.

For the past 4 years, Calhoun has played Buford in the State championship, and this year, in truly nail-biting fashion, Calhoun prevailed in overtime on a 32-yard field goal by Adam Griffith.

Mr. Speaker, Buford is one of the best teams in the country, led by my friends Coach Jess Simpson and Athletic Director Dexter Wood. And it would have set a record had it won its fifth straight State championship, but Calhoun was finally able to stop them.

My congratulations to head Coach Hal Lamb and his staff, the outstanding young athletes and their families, and the whole high school community on this great victory. You've made us all proud. Go Yellow Jackets.

IRAN THREAT REDUCTION ACT

(Mr. QUIGLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will consider the Iran Threat Reduction Act to bolster sanctions on the Iranian regime. It is time.

As the International Atomic Energy Agency recently reported, Iran could have a bomb within a year and is pursuing the means to trigger and deliver a nuclear weapon. We are out of time and have no choice but to enact the severest of sanctions in order to protect our ally Israel, our troops, and the entire region. And as the Israeli Prime Minister warned, there is nothing to stop Iran from exporting the bomb.

This bill will put in place debilitating sanctions on the Central Bank of Iran, which finances the nuclear program. The sanctions would deny those who do business with Iran Central Bank access to American markets. We are out of time, and we are running out of options. This bill gives us more of both.

I urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 1905, cut off the Central Bank of Iran, and send a message that a nuclear Iran is unacceptable.

BLOCK THE IMF FROM BAILING OUT EUROPE

(Mr. BUCHANAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, America is drowning in a sea of debt. But instead of addressing our own financial problems here at home, there is talk of another bailout—not for America, but for Europe.

Recent reports indicate that the International Monetary Fund, of which the U.S. is the leading contributor, may intervene to bail out failing European countries.

Washington needs to be focusing on policies that grow the U.S. economy and create jobs here, not shipping hard-earned tax dollars overseas. For this reason, I have cosponsored legislation to block the IMF from sending \$108 billion in U.S. funds for a European bailout. I urge my colleagues in Congress to join me in this effort. Taxpayer dollars should not be used to bail out Europe. We need to take care of America first.

LET'S VOTE ON A CLEAN UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS BILL

(Ms. HAHN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, we're running out of time. Just in California, where I come from, 356,000 Californians are at risk of losing critical unemployment benefits because this Congress has failed to act. These aren't just 356,000 strangers; these are our friends, these are our neighbors, these are our families. These are proud Americans who through no fault of their own have lost their jobs. They want to work, but because this Congress has failed to act, jobs are hard to find. And instead of just voting on extending these unemployment benefits, my Republican friends have asked us to approve other unrelated controversial items in this bill.

What I'm saying to my Republican friends is, can't we just vote on the unemployment benefits by themselves? Can't we debate the oil pipeline later? Do we have to gut clean air laws to extend benefits? Let's vote on this on its own and give Americans some hope.

NATIONAL GUARD'S 375TH BIRTHDAY

(Mr. PALAZZO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to wish a very happy birthday to our National Guard. As the only active